

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An Integrated Communication System (ICS) with fail-over serial data connectivity is disclosed. In one aspect, an ICS may comprise a chassis including a System Switch Processor (SSP) for providing connectivity to a plurality of slots. A  
5 Serial Alarm Processor (SAP) may be operatively coupled to the ICS through one of the slots, and include at least one serial port for providing serial data connectivity. A Primary Single Board Computer (SBC) and at least one secondary SBC may be disposed in the slots. The ICS may be configured to pass control of serial data connectivity from the Primary SBC to a secondary SBC in the event of the failure of  
10 the Primary SBC. Various methods for fail-over serial data connectivity are also disclosed.